

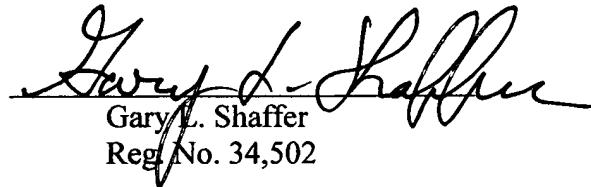
**REMARKS**

The present communication is responsive to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated November 26, 2004. In view of the present communication, and in view of applicant' Response and Amendment filed October 7, 2004 applicants request allowance of the pending claims 31-42.

Moreover, applicants reiterate their request for a formal interview with Examiner Fischetti. Applicants therefore request the Examiner to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange such an interview.

Moreover, if any other matter can be resolved by telephone, Examiner Fischetti is hereby requested to contact the undersigned as soon as possible, with any comments, questions or suggestions that he may have.

Respectfully submitted,



Gary L. Shaffer  
Reg. No. 34,502

Date: December 21, 2004

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